


**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Masato KATAOKA

By 

Nils E. Pedersen  
Registration No. 33,145  
Attorney for Applicant

NEP/krg  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
March 9, 2006